

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 CIAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7324

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UNCLAS USUN 1198

FOR IO (PASS AID)

E. O. 11652 NA

TAGS: AORG, UN, SWEL, BG

SUBJ: UNROD-- CHANDLER SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL MISSION

REF: (A) USUN A-503

(B) USUN 5568

1. ADDENDUM TO CHANDLER MISSION REPORT OF DEC 1972
RE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATES FOR 1972/73 FORWARDED
REF (A). ADDENDUM BASED ON CHANDLER FOLLOW- UP VISIT BD
O/ A MAR 24-27 1973. PURPOSE THIS MESSAGE IS TO SUMMARIZE
CONCLUSIONS THEREIN.

2. MAIN CONCLUSION FOLLOW- UP VISIT, UNDERTAKEN WITH
COLLABORATION OFFICIALS DBG OFFICIALS PLANNING COMMISSION
AND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, IS THAT BORO CROP WILL BE
HIGHER THAN IN 1972, AND, THUS, PROVIDE ADD- ON TO AGGREGATE
PRODUCTION ESTIMATES FOR 1973 FROM 2.10 MILLION TONS OF
FOODGRAINS (SEE BASIC REPORT FORWARDED REF B) TO
2.24 MILLION TONS-- AND INCREASE OF APPROXIMATELY
140,000 TONS. REASONS FOR INCREASE AS FOLLOWS:

- A. ADDITIONAL LIFT PUMPS IN OPERATION;
 - B. HIGHER FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTION THAN IN 1972;
 - C. HEAVY RAINS IN LATE FEB/ EARLY MAR; AND
 - D. INCENTIVE FACTOR PLANT MORE RICE DUE HIGHER
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PRICES (AT EXPENSE AT LEAST SOME OTHER CROPS,
HOWEVER)

RE REVISED ESTIMATE, CHANDLER ADDS QUALIFICATION THAT IT IS AN ESTIMATE ON A CROP WHICH WILL NOT BE HARVESTED BEFORE 6 TO 8 WEEKS AND REMAINS, THEREFORE, SUBJECT INCLEMENT WEATHER ET AL.

3. AS FOOTNOTE TO REVISION OF PRODUCTION ESTIMATES, ADDENDUM MAKES OBSERVATION THAT THOUSANDS OF BD ACRES LAY BARREN AND OPINES PRINCIPAL REASON IS LACK OF IRRIGATION, WHILE, AT SAMETIME, RIVERS FLOW WITH ABUNDANCE OF WATER. REPORT SUGGESTS SERIES OF LOW- LIFT PUMPS WOULD CONVERT MUCH OF BARREN AVERAGE INTO PRODUCTION AREAS AN, TOGETHER WITH UTILIZATION GROUND WATER RESOURCES, BD COULD BECOME SELF - SUFFICIENT IN FOOD. REPORT GOES ON TO RECOMMEND AUS CROP, WHICH NOW DEPENDENT ON RISKY NATURAL RAINFALL, BE REPLACED ASAP WITH IRRIGATED RICE CROP, AND MAKES STRONG PITCH FOR CROP DIVERSIFICATION, I. E. PLANNING FOR MULIPLE CROPPING NOT ONLY OF RICE BUT OF WIDE RANGE OF FOOD CROPS.
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UNCLASSIFIED

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